1. (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a storage device recording picture information; and

an image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, comprising:

a copy guard detecting circuit detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal,

a video decoding circuit digitizing the input video signal, and

an image processing circuit reducing screen information digitized by said video decoding circuit and storing the reduced screen information to said storage device, in a case where said copy guard detecting circuit detects the copy guard signal.

2. (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a storage device recording picture information; and

an image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, comprising:

a copy guard detecting circuit detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal,

a video decoding circuit digitizing the input video signal, and

an image processing circuit preventing from storing screen information digitized by said video decoding circuit to said storage device, in a case where said copy guard detecting circuit detects the copy guard signal.

3. (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a storage device recording picture information; and

an image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, comprising:

a copy guard detecting circuit detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal,

a video decoding circuit digitizing the input video signal, and

an image processing circuit storing to said storage device, both screen information digitized by said video decoding circuit and the fact of the detection by said copy guard detecting circuit of the copy guard signal.

4.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the image controlling circuit, further comprises:

a video encoding circuit encoding screen information and outputting a video signal; and

said image processing circuit further comprises a circuit reducing the screen information in a case where an output of screen information stored in the storage device is ordered.

5.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the image controlling circuit, further comprises:

a video encoding circuit encoding screen information and outputting a video signal; and

a prohibiting circuit preventing said video encoding circuit from outputting the video signal, in a case where an output of screen information stored in the storage device is ordered.

6.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the image controlling circuit, further comprises:

a video encoding circuit adding a copy guard signal to the output of screen information stored at the storage device, encoding and outputting a video signal.

10.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a storage device recording picture information; and

an image controlling circuit controlling screen information which is recorded at said storage device, comprising:

an image processing circuit reducing the screen information in a case where the screen information is protected from copying, and

a video encoding circuit encoding the screen information processed by said image processing circuit and outputting a video signal.

11.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a storage device recording picture information; and

an image controlling circuit controlling screen information which is recorded at said

storage device, comprising:

a video encoding circuit encoding the screen information and outputting a video signal, and

a prohibiting circuit preventing said video encoding circuit from outputting the video signal, in a case where the screen information is protected from copying.

12.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a storage device recording picture information; and

an image controlling circuit controlling screen information which is recorded at a storage device, comprising a video encoding circuit adding a copy guard signal in a case where the screen information is protected from copying, encoding the screen information and outputting a video signal.

13.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) In an image processing apparatus having a storage device recording picture information and an image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, a method for controlling image information, comprising :

detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal;

digitizing the input video signal;

reducing the digitized screen information, in a case where the copy guard signal has been detected; and

storing the reduced screen information to said storage device.

14.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) In an image processing apparatus having a storage device recording picture information and an image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, a method for controlling image information, comprising :

detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal;

digitizing the input video signal; and

preventing storing picture information to said storage device, in a case where the copy guard signal has been detected.

15.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) In an image processing apparatus having a storage device recording picture information and an image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, a method for controlling image information, comprising :

detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal;

digitizing the input video signal; and

storing to said storage device, both screen information digitized and fact that the copy guard signal has been detected.

16.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) A method for controlling image information as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

reducing the screen information stored at the storage device; and

outputting a video signal of the reduced screen information .

17.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) A method for controlling image information as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

preventing outputting of the video signal, in a case where an output of screen information, stored at the storage device, is ordered.

18.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) A method for controlling image information as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

outputting the screen information as a video signal; and

adding a copy guard signal to the output of the video signal.

22.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) In an image processing apparatus having a storage device recording picture information and image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, a method for controlling image information, comprising :

recording digitized screen information to said storage device;

reducing the digitized screen information, in a case where the digitized screen information is protected from copying; and

outputting a video signal of the reduced and digitized screen information .

23.   (AS ONCE AMENDED) In an image processing apparatus having a storage device recording picture information and image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, a method for processing image information, comprising :

recording digitized screen information to said storage device; and

preventing outputting of the video signal, in a case where the screen information is protected from copying.

24. (AS ONCE AMENDED) In an image processing apparatus having a storage device recording picture information and image controlling circuit controlling input and output of picture information, a method for processing image information, comprising :
  recording digitized screen information to said storage device;
  outputting the digitized screen information as a video signal; and
  adding a copy guard signal to the output video signal, in a case where the screen information is protected from copying.

25. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer-readable program which controls a computer system to execute an image controlling process, by:
  detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal; and
  reducing screen information, digitized out of the input video signal, in a case where the copy guard signal is detected.

26. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer-readable program which controls a computer system to execute an image controlling process, by:
  detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal; and
  preventing storing of the input video signal, as digitized, in a case where the copy guard signal is detected.

27. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer-readable program which controls a computer system to execute an image controlling process, by:
  detecting a copy guard signal included in an input video signal; and
  storing to a storage device, both digitized screen information and fact that the copy guard signal has been detected.

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